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COMPREHENSIVE TEST-BAN TREATY

Letter dated 7 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the enclosed statement issued on 21 June 1995 by His Excellency President Fidel V. Ramos of the Republic of the Philippines on France's decision to resume nuclear testing in the South Pacific (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 65 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Ronald B. ALLAREY
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

* A/50/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Statement on the French decision to resume nuclear testing in the South Pacific made on 21 June 1995 by the President of the Republic of the Philippines

I wish to inform you that I have written personally to His Excellency Jacques Chirac, the President of the Republic of France, conveying to him the deep concern of the Government of the Philippines over the decision of his Government to resume nuclear testing in the South Pacific.

I conveyed to the French President the Philippine view that a resumption of nuclear testing is inimical to the promotion of the kind of international climate we need in order to promote further nuclear arms control and disarmament. I reiterated the support of the Philippines for the eventual conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear test-ban treaty.

Our Department of Foreign Affairs also conveyed a diplomatic note to the French Embassy, and to the French Government through the Philippine Embassy in Paris, on the same subject. The note protested the French decision on the resumption of testing.

We sincerely hope that the Government and people of France will reflect carefully on the concern and sentiments that have been so clearly expressed by the members of the international community, and most especially by our friends in the South Pacific who will be most directly affected by any hazardous consequences of nuclear testing.

At this point, let me stress that the Philippines and France have traditionally enjoyed good relations in many fields. We will continue developing this relationship, which has proved to be mutually beneficial and which has the potential for even greater growth and diversification in the years ahead. It was precisely the intention of my visit to France last year to deepen and broaden our bilateral ties, considering that we have a great deal of interest in both countries to bring Europe and Asia closer together through our mutual interaction.

At the same time, we are dismayed at this decision of the French Government, which has tremendous implications for both international and regional security and stability. As a friend of France in the Asia-Pacific region, the Philippines calls on the French Government to recognize its responsibilities in a global context by seriously and immediately reconsidering its decision.